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Notes for Music Lovers

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Notes for Music Lovers

by Jean Metcalf

HERE'S a written lesson in music about the artists who are appearing this season at Iowa State College. The answers are here, too, to give you a perfect score.

1. Who is the handsome young conductor making his third appearance on this campus with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra?
2. What string quartette was so very popular with the student body that they have been asked back to appear this year for an entire week of chamber music?
3. What beautiful mezzo-soprano of the Metropolitan Opera is to appear on our campus this season for the first time?
4. Who among the artists appearing has the greatest name in the pianistic world?

If you're in doubt about any of the answers you may find them by looking at the end of the story.

Most persons have a desire to culti-

at this technical institution where music is used only for recreational and cultural purposes. No degree is offered. Professor Tolbert MacRae, head of the Music Department, feels that this is remarkable.

The Music Council has brought us each year for several years some of the world's greatest musical artists. Among these have been Lawrence Tibbett, distinguished Metropolitan and motion picture star; Jose Iturbi, gracious maestro who directed the Iowa State Symphony Orchestra and presented a piano recital; Marion Anderson, superb negress contralto; the Don Cossack chorus composed of talented singers and dancers who are actually ex-officers of the Czar's Imperial Army; and Lily Pons, lovely soprano of motion picture and opera fame.

The power to recognize fine music must come from continued constructive listening. There is really no other way to learn the excellence of musical ideas



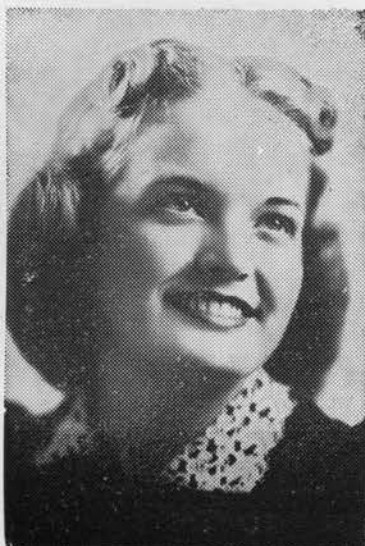
The Carnegie music set may be used by any student wishing to hear good music.

vate a discriminating taste in music. To do this one must have first a sincere desire to have a knowledge of music, and then he needs merely to live in an atmosphere of good music until he acquires an appreciation of great music. The right to like or dislike music in its various forms without giving a reason for such, has long been regarded as coexistent with human freedom.

Home Economics women have, for the most part, chosen the first alternative, as shown by their desire to cultivate a discriminating taste in music. There are several hundred Home Economics students participating in musical activities

than to live with the masters and absorb the spirit of their nobility. It is now possible for every Iowa State student to do just this, for last year the Carnegie Foundation presented Iowa State with a music set consisting of a library of music literature, an excellent vacuum tube reproducer and a collection of over 900 recordings with bound scores of operas and symphonies to be followed while the compositions are being played.

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to compile. Students may listen to recitals any day of the week from 4 to 8, in room 224 at Memorial Union. The library of books and scores are soon to be catalogued by the college library so that it will be possible to check out books.

Music is truly an art, a thing of law and order. There is little in it which may not be understood by the average man. At the same time, we cannot lay down a rule for what is good music and what is bad music.

It has been said that "musically, all men are created free but not necessarily equal." To learn to appreciate good music, we must be honest and open-minded in all our attitudes toward music and must be willing to learn high standards of music. We must spend much time with the great masters for recognition is the first step towards musical appreciation. Thoreau once said, "Nature does not cast pearls before the swine. There is just as much beauty in the landscape as we are prepared to appreciate, not a grain more. There is no power to see in the eye itself."

What Thoreau says here of the eye is equally true of the ear. Many people who appreciate swing music say that they cannot appreciate classical music. This is a state of mind. They should cultivate their powers of hearing by listening with their minds as well as their ears.

Singing is clearly the most expressive sort of music. Iowa State College offers the Men's and Women's Glee Clubs for those students who desire to express their musical talents through singing. Each group gives inspiring concerts several times each season, and the two groups together give each year a Christmas and an Easter cantata and an operetta in the spring.

For students especially interested in instrumental music, the Iowa State Symphony Orchestra and the Iowa State Concert Band furnish a complete musical playground. The Symphony last season made three local appearances and gave additional concerts in near-by towns. The members of the Symphony last season had the great honor of having as guest conductors Vladimir Golschmann and Leo Kucinski. Kucinski is a professor of music at Morningside College and is the director of the Sioux City Symphony Orchestra. Confucius has said, "When music and courtesy are better understood, there will be no war."

Answers to Quiz

1. Vladimir Golschmann—to appear on Feb. 18.
2. Roth String Quartette—the week of Jan. 16 at 7 every evening. One feature is their appearance with the Iowa State Symphony Orchestra on Wednesday in Great Hall.
3. Rose Bampton—one of the younger stars of the Metropolitan Opera.
4. Rachmaninoff—to appear on the 14th of November.

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